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September 17, 1954

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Dear [REDACTED]

Good to see your familiar hen tracks stretching across the paper after so long an interval. The only way I can explain that you didn't come loping after your retirement refund before is that I always knew you Texans all had plenty of money! Fact of the matter is, I thought you had picked it up some time after leaving.

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I called [REDACTED] down in [REDACTED] shop (Employee Services Division) and she sent me the necessary forms and a little blue note wherein she approximated your refund in the neighborhood of \$490. All you have to do now is to fill out one of these forms and return it to me and I'll see that the wheels start grinding to produce the amount, less, of course, my usual exorbitant commission of 20 percent. No commission no money!

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On third thought, I guess I'll have to settle for that crock of corn likker and branch water you promised, if and when I catch up with you. I only wish that I were coming to your splendid fandango in Austin on October 6, but the horrible truth is that since mid-June, when I returned from a mighty pleasant and productive two months in Europe, I have been out of my old foxhole in Personnel Procurement and up here on The Hill, doing the Lord's work for the Deputy Director (Administration). You'll see the new collection of descriptive terms after my signature hereon. I'm still intimately connected with the personnel field, but not quite as close to the Hot Breath of Gorgeous George Meleon, my old mentor. [REDACTED] took over for me on 21 June and has done every bit as well as I know he would. I think there is still a little matter of paying dues to SWPA for this year, but Chick will have to vouch for that now. However, I do hope that maybe you are coming to the WCPA meeting in Seattle on 20 January next. [REDACTED] asked me to sit in on a panel discussion, and my new boss approves, so if I am to see SWPA again, physically, it will probably have to be as a panel member, since pure non-active participation such as I have been a party to for the past three years is regarded as something of a luxury.

What I want to know is how do you latch onto all these paying operations in the summer? Isn't that somehow a violation of your oath as a loyal Texan? Or did Boeing get to use you for transportation and skittles only? Anyway, it sounds as though you and Mama had lotsa fun. My trip this year included countries as far apart as Norway and Italy, England and Austria, but I still have the old trouble - going broke saving money!

Let me know if any of our good Government forms give you pain or pause, Horse, Ole Boy. In any event, I'll be looking for word from you with the completed material enclosed herewith. Very best regards to you and Mrs. [REDACTED] and I am sure you will chair a nifty conference session in Austin - would that I could join you. Keep the faith, pal.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]  
Special Assistant to the Deputy Director

Enclosures

SA-DD/A:JAC:mrp (17 September 1954)

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